

Message

From: Jensen, Amy A. [jensen.amy@epa.gov]
Sent: 3/19/2020 4:47:17 PM
To: Opalski, Dan [Opalski.Dan@epa.gov]; McGrath, Patricia [mcgrath.patricia@epa.gov]; Grandinetti, Cami [Grandinetti.Cami@epa.gov]; Szerlog, Michael [Szerlog.Michael@epa.gov]; LaCroix, Matthew [LaCroix.Matthew@epa.gov]; McCracken, Betsy W. [mccracken.betsy@epa.gov]; Hough, Palmer [Hough.Palmer@epa.gov]
Subject: Reasons why Pebble is an EIS

All - Just to document what the AK District shared with us today:

Viewing SHANE MCCOY's screen

We determined that an EIS was required for this project for the following reasons:¶

- a.- The unique characteristics of the Bristol Bay region to include essential salmon habitat for five species of pacific salmon including supporting wetlands and aquatic resources, unique fresh water seal population of Lake Iliamna ((§1508.27(b)(3)) in local, regional, national and global contexts (§1508.27(a));¶
- b.- The history of controversy and litigation associated with the potential effects on the quality of the human environment. The controversy exists in the local, regional, national, and global contexts ((§1508.27(a)); and¶
- c.- The potential for the mining infrastructure, transportation corridor and port facility to establish a precedent for future actions of similar nature and significant effects to expand throughout the region ((§1508.27(b)(6), local and regional context ((§1508.27(a)))¶

The triggering of an EIS as above is NOT equivalent to determining significant degradation under 40CFR 230.10(c)¶

The 404(b)(1) analysis should present conclusions consistent with the analysis in the EIS.¶

-Amy



Amy Jensen
Regional Wetland Coordinator
U.S. EPA, Region 10
Wetlands and Oceans Section, Water Division
1200 6th Ave, Suite #155, Mail Stop 19-C04
Seattle, Washington 98101-3188
Office: (206) 553-0285
Email: jensen.amy@epa.gov